

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 181

By Johnson C

A RESOLUTION to recognize and honor acclaimed songwriter Bobby Keel.

WHEREAS, it is the privilege of the members of this General Assembly to recognize those Tennesseans who are wholly devoted to their craft and enrich the lives of their fellow citizens through their art; and

WHEREAS, one such individual is Bobby Keel of Clarksville, a songwriter of the highest caliber who has devoted his career to penning hits for artists who are household names and has performed for rapt audiences around the world; and

WHEREAS, a native of Dover, Mr. Keel was born to be a songwriter; he began playing piano when he was three, started picking up melodies when he was five, and began his songwriting career in earnest at seventeen; and

WHEREAS, he came to Nashville in 1972 with a few songs as well as a sack of crappie and a frozen mallard duck with which to ingratiate himself to publishers on Music Row; his venture was fruitful, as he signed a publishing deal with Moss-Rose Music; and

WHEREAS, Bobby Keel's impressive songwriting career brought him fourteen Gold and twelve Platinum certifications from the Recording Industry Association of America for songs recorded by Hank Williams, Jr., David Allan Coe, Confederate Railroad, Travis Tritt, Merle Haggard, Willie Nelson, Freddie Powers, Albert King, The Carter Family, Johnny Rodriguez, Moe Bandy and Joe Stampley, Tammy Wynette, McGuffey Lane, and Tom Jones; and

WHEREAS, some of his most popular songs include "Whiskey on Ice," "Time Off for Bad Behavior," "Daddy's Honky Tonk," "Bein' Gone," "Where's the Love We Made," "If You Got It," and "Yankee Don't Go Home"; and

WHEREAS, Bobby Keel is also a performer himself; he released his album *Asphalt Ribbon* in 1982 and has toured with the likes of Lynyrd Skynyrd, Hank Williams, Jr., and Confederate Railroad, playing for crowds of up to 150,000; and

WHEREAS, since 1996, he has played in the band he founded with his friend Wayne Brown called Ballistic Pintos; in addition to the two founding members, the band includes Kenny Baggett and Daryl Goppert; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Keel gives back to his community through performances with the Ballistic Pintos, which has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for charitable causes over the years; he is also an outspoken advocate of Music Health Alliance and Music Cares; and

WHEREAS, throughout his many accomplishments, Mr. Keel has enjoyed the love and support of his three sons; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly pause to honor Tennessee's own Bobby Keel, a songwriter and musician who has brought much pride to his home state; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we recognize and honor Bobby Keel for his many contributions to country music and the craft of songwriting, extending our best wishes for his continued success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.